

SCHREIBER

Serial No.: 09/535,951

November 25, 2003

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-7 (Cancelled).

Claims 8-17 (Cancel).

18. (New) A method of reducing an atherosclerotic plaque load in the vessels of a patient comprising administering to a patient in need of such reduction 17-OH progesterone in an amount and under conditions such that said reduction is effected.

19. (New) A method of reducing an atherosclerotic plaque load in the vessels of a patient comprising administering to a patient in need of such reduction 16-methylprogesterone in an amount and under conditions such that said reduction is effected.

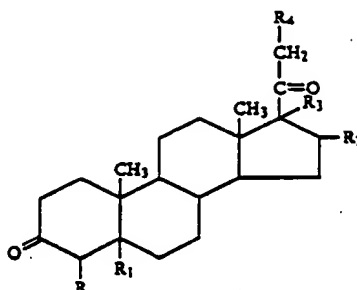
20. (New) A method of reducing an atherosclerotic plaque load in the vessels of a patient comprising

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administering to a patient in need of such reduction a
progestational agent of formula:



wherein R and R₁ individually are hydrogen or taken together form a double bond; R₂ is hydrogen or methyl; R₃ is hydrogen or hydroxyl; and R₄ is hydrogen or hydroxyl, and

wherein said agent is administered in an amount and under conditions such that said reduction is effected.

21. (New) A method of reducing an atherosclerotic plaque load in the vessels of a patient comprising administering to a patient in need of such reduction cortexolone in an amount and under conditions such that said reduction is effected.

22. (New) A method of reducing an atherosclerotic plaque load in the vessels of a patient comprising administering to a patient in need of such reduction 5- α -pregnan-3,20-dione in an amount and under conditions such that said reduction is effected.